

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: EA/LC:JBROH-KAHN

APPROVED BY: EA/LC:LMRIVES

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O 091535Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080247

FOLL REPEAT PARIS 08775 ACTION SECSTATE 08 APR 75 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 08775

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: PFOR, CB,

SUBJECT: FRENCH GOVERNMENT CHANGE IN POSITION CONCERNING  
GKR

1. GKR CHARGE KENG VANNSAK TOLD EMBOFF THAT QUAI  
DIRECTOR FOR PROTOCOL, ANGLES, CALLED ON HIM APRIL 8  
TO DIS-INVITE HIM FROM DINNER BEING GIVEN THAT EVENING  
BY PRESIDENT GISCARD FOR SOME OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS.  
ANGLES, WHO WAS VISIBLY VERY EMBARRASSED, SAID THAT  
GISCARD WISHED TO CONVEY TO VANNSAK THE ASSURANCES THAT  
THE CANCELLATION OF THE INVITATION WAS NOT BASED ON  
ANY PERSONAL ANTIPAHY, BUT ON "RAISON D'ETAT". GIVEN  
THE CURRENT POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION WITHIN  
CAMBODIA, THE FRENCH PRESIDENT ASSUMED THAT VANNSAK  
WOULD UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR WHICH THE GOF WISHED  
HIM NOT TO ATEND THE DIPLOMATIC DINNER. ANGLES SAID  
THAT HE HAD BEEN CHARGED ONLY WITH THIS MESSAGE FROM THE  
FRENCH PRESIDENT AND WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO DISCUSS  
THE NATURE OF THE "RAISON D'ETAT" WHICH HAD DICTATED THE  
GOF DECISION. ANGLES SUGGESTED THAT VANNSAK CONTACT  
THE POLITICAL AREA OF THE QUAI FOR FURTHER DETAILS  
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CONCERNING THE BACKGROUND OF THE GOF DECISION.

2. VANNSAK THEN CALLED QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS BOLLE TO REQUEST AN INTERVIEW WITH THE DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS, LABOULAYE, BASING HIS REQUEST ON ANGLES' SUGGESTION HE VISIT QUAI'S POLITICAL SECTION. QUAI RESPONDED THAT LABOULAYE IS OUT OF TOWN OR OTHERWISE ENGAGED IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. BOLLE ARGUED THAT HIS TIME WAS TAKEN UP BY URGENT APPOINTMENTS AND SUGGESTED VANNSAK SEE ONE OF HIS SUBORDINATES, A LOW RANKING OFFICIAL WITHOUT ASIAN EXPERIENCE. VANNSAK REFUSED.

3. VANNSAK TOLD US HE WISHED TO REPORT ANGLES' CONVERSATION AND QUAI'S SUBSEQUENT REFUSAL TO PERMIT POLITICAL CONTACT. HE MAY WISH TO SEND A BRIEF REPORT VIA OUR CHANNELS.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE UNAWARE HERE OF ANY SPECIFIC ACTION VIS-A-VIS KHMER COMMUNISTS WHICH WOULD HAVE PROMPTED FRENCH PRESIDENT'S 11TH HOUR CANCELLATION OF INVITATION, CONTRARY TO ALL RULES OF DIPLOMATIC USAGE AND COURTESY. DESPITE EFFORT ANGLES MADE TO SOFTEN THE BLOW, THE ABSENCE OF CAMBODIAN CHARGE WILL NOT GO UNNOTICED. WE BELIEVE USG SHOULD NOT TAKE INITIATIVE IN CALLING ATTENTION TO OBVIOUS FRENCH SLIGHT TO GKR, BUT WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND TO FRENCH ACTION AND HOW WE SHOULD ADVISE GKR CHARGE TO RESPOND SHOULD HE ASK FOR U.S. GUIDANCE.  
RUSH

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, CB, FR, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY), (KENG VANNSAK)  
**To:** PHNOM PENH  
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